

**From:** Kevin Kartak [kkartak@fasterandbetter.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 01, 2009 5:40 PM  
**To:** COM SBCC Home  
**Subject:** Opposition to Mandatory Fire Sprinklers

**I wish to respectfully express my opposition to mandatory fire sprinklers.**

Please vote to remove the mandatory fire sprinkler requirement from the state building code. Mandating that we, and our children, and our grandchildren make this outrageous financial investment is a "government at its worst" intrusion into our financial lives.

It simply isn't right to mandate that you and I, our children, and grandchildren pay for these sprinklers. This will significantly effect the cost of housing for most of us, as well as the next generation since **the majority of us will be living in a home built after today, sometime in the next 30 years.**

I plan to build or buy a new dream home to retire in sometime in the next ten years. That means I will get stuck with the bill. OK, by then, maybe I can afford it. But what about my sister, my children, and my employees who are struggling to save and buy a home. What about my grandchild? Why should we burden them?

Why mandate that my children pay for this? And if we do, exactly what do our children get for their money?

There are less than 3000 people who die in the UNITED STATES per year due to residential fires.

**Please be wise with our citizens money.** Fire Deaths are EXTREMELY RARE.

You are much more likely to be killed by firearms than by residential fire. Annual deaths by firearms: 28,663.\* Wouldn't it be a better investment to make it mandatory that all our citizens wear bullet proof vests? At a cost of only \$1200 a person, the benefit/cost ratio would be vastly better.

As compiled from data reported by the National Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 50, No. 15

If we are going to make it mandatory that our children pay for a safety device that will save lives, how about a \$1,000 defibrillator in every home? Since heart disease is the number one killer of our citizens, this has an **exponentially greater potential** to save lives, and at a much lower cost. The cost benefit ratio has got to be a thousand times better!

Fewer people will be able to afford a new home and will be forced into buying older statistically less safe housing. Fire sprinklers should be a consumer/homebuyer choice.

Again, please be thoughtful as you mandate how I, and my children, and grandchildren will spend our hard earned money.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Kartak

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